

1. (Amended) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow in a shoestring which includes:

(a) a base member;

(b) an extended string attached to said base member with the two ends thereof extending loosely from said base member;

(c) a holding member supported above the base member and having at least two separate and distinct securing elements thereon spaced from one another and each said securing member being formed to temporarily hold a different one of said two ends of said string in place thereat to permit said child to manipulate the string and form a bow in the string.

2. (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow as defined in claim 1, wherein said base member includes two holes therethrough, and wherein said string is threaded through said holes so that the approximate center of the string is between said holes and said ends of said string extend away from said holes and have substantially equal lengths.

3. (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow as defined in claim 1, wherein each said ends of said string have first and second different colored indicators located thereon, respectively, at a predetermined distance from said base member corresponding generally to the distance between said base member and said securing elements, and wherein said securing elements on said holding member each have a different color that correspond, respectively, to said first and second color indicators on said ends of said strings.

4. (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow as defined in claim 3, wherein one of said string ends has a third colored indicator that is different from said first and second colored indicators, and that is located between one of said first or second colored indicators and the tip end of one of said ends of said string.

5 (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow as defined in claim 1, wherein a vertically extending post is removably mounted in said base member to extend

upwardly therefrom, and where said holding member is removably attached to said post, whereby all elements of the device can be easily assembled and disassembled.

6. (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow as defined in claim 1, wherein said base member includes a drawing of a rabbit thereon, and wherein said holes in said base member are located where the ears of the rabbit be located whereby the string, when tied in a bow, has the appearance of ears for said rabbit.

7. (Original) A device for assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow in a shoestring which includes:

(a) a generally flat base member formed with two spaced apart holes passing through said base member;

(b) an extending string threaded through said holes in said base member with the center portion thereof extending between said two holes in said base member and with the two ends thereof extending loosely from said base member, with each of said ends of said string having first and second different colored indicators located thereon, respectively, at a predetermined distance from said base member;

(c) a post member removably mounted in said base member and extending vertically upward therefrom; and,

(d) a holding member removably mounted to said post member and positioned above said base member at a distance corresponding generally to said predetermined distance between said first and second colored indicators and said base member, said holding member having securing elements mounted thereon in spaced relation to one another and formed to temporarily hold said ends of said string in place thereat, said securing elements each having a different color that corresponds, respectively, to the colors of said first and second color indicators on said ends of said string.

8. (Original) A device for assisting a child in tying a bow as defined in claim 7, wherein one of said string ends has a third colored indicator that is different from said first and second colored indicators, and that is located between one of said first or second colored indicators and the tip end of one of said ends of said string.

9. (Original) A method of assisting and teaching a child to tie a bow in a shoestring which includes the steps of:

(a) placing two different color indicators on a length of string at predetermined locations along the length thereof;

(b) providing a base member for holding said string at a central portion thereof so that the ends of the string can extend loosely from the base member;

(c) positioning two securing elements above said base member with each of said securing elements being colored to correspond, respectively, to the color of one of said color indicators on said string;

(d) temporarily securing one end of said string to one of said securing members so that the colored indicator on said end of said string is positioned adjacent said securing member of the same color;

(e) temporarily securing the other end of said string to the other one of said securing members so that the colored indicator on said other end of said string is positioned adjacent said other securing member of the same color; and

(f) manipulating the tip ends of both said ends of said string to form the loops of a bow in said string while at least one of said ends of said string is temporarily secured to at least one of said securing members.